

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ZAGREB 00269 161353 Z

43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SS-15 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-12

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 RSR-01 /079 W

----- 078278

R 151700 Z MAY 73

FM AMCONSUL ZAGREB

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1903

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ZAGREB 0269

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINR YO

SUBJECT: DEATHS OF PRESIDENT TITO' S BROTHER AND SISTER- IN- LAW

REF: A. BELGRADE 1871; B. BELGRADE 1900

SUMMARY: PRESIDENT TITO' S YOUNGER BROTHER SLAVKO BROZ AND LATTER' S WIFE KATARINA DIED ON APRIL 24 AND MAY 3 RESPECTIVELY IN ZAGREB. ALTHOUGH NO LOCAL PRESS COVERAGE INDICATING RELATIONSHIP OF DECEASED TO TITO NOTED, AFP' S BELGRADE CORRESPONDENT UNDERSTOOD TO HAVE REPORTED PRESIDENT TITO " SHOCKED" BY YOUNGER BROTHER' S UNEXPECTED DEATH AND HAD TRAVELED TO BRDO NEAR KRANJ IN SLOVENIA ON APRIL 25 TO MOURN IN RELATIVE QUIET THERE. END SUMMARY

1. PRESIDENT TITO' S BROTHER VJEKOSLAV (SLAVKO) BROZ, BORN AUGUST 13, 1898, DIED IN ZAGREB ON APRIL 24, 1973. BRIEF, ROUTINE OBITUARY NOTICE PUBLISHED IN ZAGREB' S " VECERNJI LIST" APRIL 26 SAID DEATH " UNEXPECTED." LOCAL SOURCE INDICATES DEATH MAY HAVE BEEN RESULT GAS STOVE EXPLOSION. ACCORDING SAME SOURCE, SLAVKO' S FUNERAL ON APRIL 27 AT ZAGREB' S MIROGOJ CEMETERY SLIMLY ATTENDED.

2. ZAGREB' S " VJESNIK" MAY 5 CARRIED ROUTINE NOTICE OF DEATH ON MAY 3 " FOLLOWING LONG AND SEVERE ILLNESS" OF SLAVKO' S WIFE, KATARINA BALAZA BROZ, IN HER 69 TH YEAR. SHE UNDERSTOOD TO HAVE HAD LEG PARALYSIS.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ZAGREB 00269 161353 Z

3. ACCORDING OBITUARY NOTICES, KATARINA'S AND SLAVKO'S CHILDREN ARE SONS VLADO AND BRANKO AND THEIR GRANDDAUGHTERS, KATARINA AND LIDIJA.

4. LOCAL SOURCE STATES SLAVKO WAS FOR MANY YEARS AN AUTO MECHANIC EMPLOYED IN ZAGREB WITH STATE SECURITY ORGANS. SOURCE ADDS ONE SON HAS BEEN AN AVIATOR AND THE OTHER AN ENGINEER WITH THE MILITARY.

5. SOURCE DESCRIBES SLAVKO AS SMALL- STATURED, MILD- MANNERED, MODEST INDIVIDUAL, WHO WAS A PARTISAN. FAMILY RESIDED IN MEDIUM- SIZED VILLA ON TUSKANAC IN ONE OF ZAGREB'S BETTER RESIDENTIAL AREAS. SLAVKO REPORTEDLY WELL LIKED IN NEIGHBORHOOD.

6. COMMENT: ROUTINE OBITUARY NOTICES MADE NO MENTION RELATIONSHIP TO PRESIDENT TITO. NO OTHER LOCAL PRESS COMMENT NOTED, BUT MY FRENCH COLLEAGUE REPORTS DESPATCH FROM AFP BELGRADE CORRESPONDENT CONNECTION TITO'S TRAVEL ON AFTERNOON OF APRIL 25 TO BRDO NEAR KRANJ IN SLOVENIA TO EFFECT THAT TITO "SHOCKED" BY BROTHER'S SUDDEN DEATH AND WOULD MOURN IN RELATIVE QUIET OF BRDO. ACCORDING VLADIMIR DEDIJER'S 1952 BIOGRAPHY "JOSIP BROZ TITO," TITO WAS SEVENTH OF 15 SIBLINGS AND SLAVKO WAS ELEVENTH. SIX OF FIFTEEN WERE ALIVE IN 1952. IF AFP REPORT OF TITO'S SHOCK OVER YOUNGER BROTHER'S APRIL 24 DEATH ACCURATE, SLAVKO'S DEATH COULD HAVE BEEN FACTOR IN CURTAILMENT TITO'S ACTIVITIES (REFTELS).

WILSON

CONFIDENTIAL
NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973ZAGREB00269
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: ZAGREB
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730544/aaaajeml.tel
Line Count: 91
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 BELGARDE 1871, 73 BELGRADE 1900
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09-Oct-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <10-Dec-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 980212
Subject: DEATHS OF PRESIDENT TITO' S BROTHER AND SISTER- IN- LAW
TAGS: PINR, PINT, YO, PINT
To: BELGRADE
EUR
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005